

Appln. No. 10/717,226

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of the claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-157. (Canceled)

Claim 158. (New) A tooth whitening patch in a dry state comprising a combination formed from the following materials:

- (1) hydrogen peroxide,
- (2) polyvinyl pyrrolidone,
- (3) hydroxypropylmethyl cellulose, and
- (4) sodium tripolyphosphate,

wherein the patch has adhesive strength, and wherein the adhesive strength of the patch will increase upon becoming hydrated by applying the patch to a user's teeth.

Claim 159. (New) The patch of claim 158, wherein the adhesive strength of the patch, upon becoming hydrated, at least doubles as compared to the dry state.

Claim 160. (New) The patch of claim 158, wherein the patch comprises two layers and one of the layers is the layer which provides the adhesive strength of the patch.

Claim 161. (New) The patch of claim 160, wherein the other layer is a backing layer.

Claim 162. (New) The patch of claim 160, wherein the layer with adhesive strength comprises a combination formed from hydrogen peroxide and polyvinyl pyrrolidone.

Claim 163. (New) The patch of claim 162, wherein the other layer is a backing layer.

Claim 164. (New) The patch of claim 162, wherein the hydrogen peroxide and polyvinyl pyrrolidone form a complex via hydrogen bonding.

Claim 165. (New) The patch of claim 158, wherein the combination further comprises sodium tripolyphosphate.

Claim 166. (New) The patch of claim 158, wherein the combination further comprises one or more plasticizers.

Claim 167. (New) The patch of claim 166, wherein the plasticizers are selected from the group consisting of propylene glycol and glycerin.

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Claim 168. (New) The patch of claim 158, wherein the combination further comprises a stabilizer for hydrogen peroxide.

Claim 169. (New) The patch of claim 158, wherein about 10% or less of the materials in the dry state patch will remain on a dry surface after contact with the surface.

Claim 170. (New) The patch of claim 169, wherein such a dry surface is skin.

Claim 171. (New) The patch of claim 158, wherein the adhesive strength of the patch, upon becoming hydrated, fixes the patch to the user's teeth.

Claim 172. (New) The patch of claim 171, wherein the fixed patch has sufficient contact time with the user's teeth to allow the patch to whiten the user's teeth.

Claim 173. (New) A tooth whitening patch comprising a combination formed from the following materials:
(1) hydrogen peroxide,
(2) polyvinyl pyrrolidone,
(3) hydroxypropylmethyl cellulose, and
(4) sodium tripolyphosphate,
wherein the patch is in a dry state such that about 10% or less of the materials will adhere to a dry surface upon contact with the surface, and is adapted to strongly adhere to a user's teeth upon becoming hydrated when applied to such a user's teeth.

Claim 174. (New) The patch of claim 173, wherein the adherence of the patch to the teeth, upon becoming hydrated, at least doubles as compared to the dry state.

Claim 175. (New) The patch of claim 173, wherein the patch comprises two layers and one of the layers is the layer which provides adhesive properties to the patch.

Claim 176. (New) The patch of claim 175, wherein the other layer is a backing layer.

Claim 177. (New) The patch of claim 175, wherein the layer with adhesive properties comprises a combination formed from hydrogen peroxide and polyvinyl pyrrolidone.

Claim 178. (New) The patch of claim 177, wherein the other layer is a backing layer.

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Claim 179. (New) The patch of claim 177, wherein the hydrogen peroxide and polyvinyl pyrrolidone form a complex via hydrogen bonding.

Claim 180. (New) The patch of claim 177, wherein the combination further comprises sodium tripolyphosphate.

Claim 181. (New) The patch of claim 173, wherein the combination further comprises one or more plasticizers.

Claim 182. (New) The patch of claim 181, wherein the plasticizers are selected from the group consisting of propylene glycol and glycerin.

Claim 183. (New) The patch of claim 173, wherein the combination further comprises a stabilizer for hydrogen peroxide.

Claim 184. (New) The patch of claim 173, wherein such a dry surface is skin.

Claim 185. (New) The patch of claim 173, wherein the adhesive strength of the patch, upon becoming hydrated, fixes the patch to the user's teeth.

Claim 186. (New) The patch of claim 185, wherein the fixed patch has sufficient contact time with the user's teeth to allow the patch to whiten the user's teeth.

Claim 187. (New) A tooth whitening patch in a dry state comprising a combination formed from the following materials:
(1) hydrogen peroxide,
(2) polyvinyl pyrrolidone, and
(3) sodium tripolyphosphate,
wherein the patch has adhesive strength, wherein the adhesive strength of the patch will increase upon becoming hydrated by applying the patch to a user's teeth.

Claim 188. (New) The patch of claim 187, wherein the adhesive strength of the patch, upon becoming hydrated, at least doubles as compared to the dry state.

Claim 189. (New) The patch of claim 187, wherein the patch comprises two layers and one of the layers is the layer which provides the adhesive strength of the patch.

Claim 190. (New) The patch of claim 189, wherein the other layer is a backing layer.

Claim 191. (New) The patch of claim 189, wherein the layer with adhesive strength comprises a combination formed from hydrogen peroxide and polyvinyl pyrrolidone.

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Claim 192. (New) The patch of claim 191, wherein the other layer is a backing layer.

Claim 193. (New) The patch of claim 191, wherein the hydrogen peroxide and polyvinyl pyrrolidone form a complex via hydrogen bonding.

Claim 194. (New) The patch of claim 191, wherein the combination further comprises sodium tripolyphosphate.

Claim 195. (New) The patch of claim 187, wherein the combination further comprises hydroxypropylmethyl cellulose.

Claim 196. (New) The patch of claim 187, wherein the combination further comprises one or more plasticizers.

Claim 197. (New) The patch of claim 196, wherein the plasticizers are selected from the group consisting of propylene glycol and glycerin.

Claim 198. (New) The patch of claim 187, wherein the combination further comprises a stabilizer for hydrogen peroxide.

Claim 199. (New) The patch of claim 187, wherein about 10% or less of the materials in the dry state patch will remain on a dry surface after contact with the surface.

Claim 200. (New) The patch of claim 199, wherein such a dry surface is skin.

Claim 201. (New) The patch of claim 187, wherein the adhesive strength of the patch, upon becoming hydrated, fixes the patch to the user's teeth.

Claim 202. (New) The patch of claim 201, wherein the fixed patch has sufficient contact time with the user's teeth to allow the patch to whiten the user's teeth.

Claim 203. (New) An active ingredient-containing adhesive layer for application to teeth comprising a combination formed from:
(1) hydrogen peroxide, and
(2) polyvinyl pyrrolidone,
wherein the adhesive layer is in a dry state and has adhesive strength, and wherein the adhesive strength of the adhesive layer will increase upon becoming hydrated by applying the adhesive layer to a user's teeth.

Claim 204. (New) The adhesive layer of claim 203, wherein the adhesive strength of the adhesive layer, upon becoming hydrated, at least doubles as compared to the adhesive strength of the adhesive layer in the dry state.

Claim 205. (New) The adhesive layer of claim 203, wherein the combination further comprises a polyphosphate.

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Claim 206. (New) The adhesive layer of claim 205, wherein the polyphosphate is selected from the group consisting of tetrasodium pyrophosphate, sodium acid pyrophosphate, sodium hexametaphosphate, sodium hexametaphosphate, sodium tripolyphosphate, sodium potassium tripolyphosphate, tetrapotassium pyrophosphate, acidic sodium metapolyposphate and combinations thereof.

Claim 207. (New) The adhesive layer of claim 205, wherein the polyphosphate is sodium tripolyphosphate.

Claim 208. (New) The adhesive layer of claim 203, wherein the combination further comprises one or more plasticizers.

Claim 209. (New) The adhesive layer of claim 208, wherein the plasticizers are selected from the group consisting of propylene glycol and glycerin.

Claim 210. (New) The adhesive layer of claim 203, wherein the hydrogen peroxide and polyvinyl pyrrolidone form a complex via hydrogen bonding.

Claim 211. (New) The adhesive layer of claim 203, wherein the combination further comprises a stabilizer for hydrogen peroxide.

Claim 212. (New) A tooth whitening patch comprising two layers, wherein one of the layers is the adhesive layer of claim 203.

Claim 213. (New) The patch of claim 212, wherein one of the layers comprises hydroxypropylmethyl cellulose.

Claim 214. (New) The patch of claim 212, wherein the other layer is a backing layer.

Claim 215. (New) The patch of claims 212, wherein one of the layers comprises sodium tripolyphosphate.

Claim 216. (New) The patch of claims 212, wherein the adhesive layer comprises sodium tripolyphosphate.

Claim 217. (New) The patch of claims 212, wherein one or both of the layers comprise one or more plasticizers.

Claim 218. (New) The patch of claim 217, wherein the plasticizers are selected from the group consisting of propylene glycol and glycerin.